

### REMARKS

The Listing of the Claims is being submitted in response to the December 16, 2003 Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment ("Notice"). The Notice alleged that the complete listing of all the claims was not present and that the claims in the amendment present were not presented in ascending numerical order.

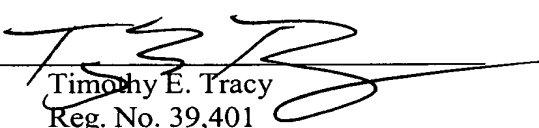
The undersigned has carefully reviewed the Listing of the Claims in the November 25, 2003 Response and discovered that claims 1-6 were not listed. Accordingly, the above Listing of the Claims contain claims 1-6. However, the undersigned could not find where the claims listed therein were not in ascending order. Nonetheless, it respectfully submitted that the above Listing of the Claims complies with 37 CFR § 1.121.

Accordingly, for the reasons set forth above, entry of the amendments, withdrawal of the rejections and objections, and allowance of the claims is respectfully requested.

Finally, the Examiner is invited to call the applicants' undersigned representative if any further action will expedite the prosecution of the application or if the Examiner has any suggestions or questions concerning the application or the present Response. In fact, if the claims of the application are not believed to be in full condition for allowance, for any reason, the applicants respectfully request the constructive assistance and suggestions of the Examiner in drafting one or more acceptable claims pursuant to MPEP § 707.07(j) or in making constructive suggestions pursuant to MPEP § 706.03 so that the application can be placed in allowable condition as soon as possible and without the need for further proceedings.

Respectfully submitted,

By:

  
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DATE: February 2, 2004